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William F. Woerner, formerly of the law department of the city of St. Louis. The article on "Health" is written by Ernst Freund, Professor of Law in the University of Chicago, and an author who is well known through his work on "Police Power," and numerous articles published in the leading law magazines. The great increase in the number of statutes dealing with public health and giving health authorities extraordinary powers have brought forth many nice questions of constitutional law. These questions Mr. Freund has shown himself well prepared to discuss through publications already well known to the profession. The volume also contains very extensive articles on Habeas Corpus, Hawkers and Peddlers, Holidays, and Homesteads, while the subject of Homicide is treated by the wellknown author of "Clark's Criminal Law." William L. Burdick, of the law school of the University of Kansas writes the article on "Husband and Wife," to which subject 600 pages are devoted.

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**The Life of General Hugh Mercer**, by Judge John T. Goolrich. The Neal Publishing Company. New York and Washington. Price \$1.50.

The lives of our Revolutionary heroes in these strenuous days are almost beginning to be

"Like a dim-remembered story  
Of the old time entombed."

A debt of gratitude is therefore due to the author who brings back to our generation a clear and living picture of any one of them. Judge John T. Goolrich of the Fredericksburg Bar has done this in his most entertaining and charming biography of Gen. Hugh Mercer. A soldier under "Bonny Prince Charlie" at Culloden; a country physician in Pennsylvania and then a practitioner at Fredericksburg, Va.; the friend and fellow-soldier in the Indian Wars of Washington; the acquaintance of Monroe, John Marshall, George Mason and of his fellow countrymen John Paul Jones; the Colonel of a Virginia regiment soon promoted to be a Brigadier General by the Continental Congress; serving with eminent distinction, winning the commendation of his great Commander in Chief and dying from wounds received at the battle of Trenton, his life is one well worthy of the attentive perusal of those who admire a life of integrity, courage, action and nobility. Judge Goolrich has done his work well—only too briefly. The book is charmingly and sympathetically written and its value added to by sketches of Washington, Paul Jones and other worthies who gathered at Fredericksburg "in the brave days of old." Every Virginian should have it in his library and it deserves and we feel will have a wide circulation throughout the Union. Valentine's fine bronze statue of Mercer, which has been so recently erected at Fredericksburg by the United States Government is probably the moving cause of this excellent biography, itself a work of art—tho' a panel picture—of which we may well say in the words of Gautier that it will remain "Plus fort que les airains."

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**The Encyclopedic Digest of Virginia and West Virginia Reports.** Volume IV. "Criminal Law to Election of Remedies," The Michie Company, Charlottesville, Va.

Each volume of this admirable work as it appears, gives additional evidence of its great value. The present volume is of peculiar interest. "Criminal Law," "Damages," "Death by Wrongful Act," "Depositions," "Descent and Distribution." and "Demurrers" are some of

the important subjects digested in the present volume. The entire case law of both Virginias, from "Criminal Law" to "Election of Remedies," up to and including the last volume of the Reports of these states, is to be found in the book. The treatment is, as usual, thorough, exhaustive, accurate and logical. As an evidence of the care and thoroughness of treatment there is to be found at the conclusion of the article on "Demurrers" to "Evidence" the act passed by the Virginia Legislature at its last session with reference to the various articles published in the "Register," giving the views of some of the members of the Legislature and members of the profession upon the article. For quick and ready reference and for admirable arrangement we do not believe this book can be surpassed. It will certainly become one of the most valuable working tools of any lawyer desiring to find the law as laid down in the states mentioned.

R. T. W. D.

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**Due Process of Law Under the Federal Constitution**, by Lucius Pope McGehee, Professor of Law in the University of North Carolina, &c. Edward Thompson Co., Northport, Long Island, New York. 1906.

This work is the second of a series contemplated to trace the application of certain fundamental ideas throughout the extended field of American Law. Probably no clause in the constitution of the United States has been oftener before the courts of late years than the clauses where "due process of law" is mentioned. The present work is an admirable treatise upon this subject, giving the history, the elements, jurisdiction and the rights and persons protected by "due process." The paramount rights of the states in due process are admirably treated in Chapter 6, while the question of taxation, of eminent domain and that "sapper and miner," of the rights of the states, known as the "Police Power," are admirably treated. Of course the book itself is necessarily largely made up from the decisions of the United States Supreme Court, but the decisions of other jurisdictions have been brought in so as to give the work an additional value from a historical and logical standpoint. The book is not only pleasantly and clearly written, but the publishers have been generous in the splendid type and paper given to it.

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**The Law of Automobiles**, by Xenophon P. Huddy, LL.B., of the New York Bar. Published by Matthew Bender & Co. Albany, N. Y. 1906.

That the automobile has come to stay there is no question; that it very frequently stays upon the Virginia roads until hauled out by animal power, is equally true. As a new means of transportation of course it has given rise to numerous disputes, a great deal of litigation and, if possible, a greater amount of legislation. The work mentioned above is the first work devoted to the subject. It not only contains a treatise on the law as it has been laid down by the courts in reference to the motor car and automobiling, but it treats the decisions from an original and logical standpoint. As an appendix it gives the automobile enactments of every state in the Union which has passed laws upon the subject. We find that thirty-five states, as well as the District of Columbia, have passed statutes more or less lengthy and complicated, governing the use of automobiles, and in addition to this the book contains the statute of England upon the subject—probably the earliest of any. The book, it seems to the writer, is of value not only to the profession, but should certainly be read and studied by every owner of one of these new vehicles now coming so much into use.